

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY DOD/ISA:RFISS:KS
APPROVED BY EUR/RPM:SJLEDOGAR
OSD/ISA:GEN. BOWMAN
OSD/PA&E:RSCHNEIDER
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EUR/RPM:ROBINSON/FROEBE
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O P 020042Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USMISSION USNATO IMMEDIATE
INFO USLOSACLANT PRIORITY
CINCLANT PRIORITY
USNMR SHAPE PRIORITY
USCINCEUR PRIORITY
USDEL MC PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 111027

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, NATO

SUBJECT: LTDP - MAY 2 EWG MEETING

REF:

- A. USNATO 69 DTG 281744Z APR 78;
- B. STATE 108455 DTG 280118Z APR 78.

1. IN VIEW OF THE FRG, UK AND SHAPE REACTION TO OUR
PROPOSAL ON THE DUTCH BRIGADE (PARA 1, REF A), WE FEEL
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YOU SHOULD TABLE THE US PROPOSAL. THIS SLEEPING
DOG OBVIOUSLY WILL NOT LIE, AND SECDEF HAS WRITTEN
MOD MULLEY ON THIS ISSUE.

2. REFERENCE THE FRG PROPOSED CHANGES IN LINE 2, PARA 7,
ANNEX E OF THE REPORT (PARA 2, REF A), WE DO NOT AGREE
WITH THE DELETION OF THE WORD "DEFENCE", SINCE THE

TERM "AIR ASSETS" WOULD NOT INCLUDE THE LAND AIR DEFENSE SYSTEMS. HOWEVER, WE COULD AGREE TO ITS DELETION IF AFTER "AIR ASSETS" THE PHRASE "AND LAND-BASED AIR DEFENSE ASSETS" WERE INCLUDED. WE ALSO COULD AGREE TO THE DELETION OF THE WORD "ALL", BUT WOULD PREFER NO CHANGES, PARTICULARLY SINCE YOU FEEL THAT THE FRG IS PREPARED TO FALL OFF FOOTNOTE ANYWAY.

3. REFERENCE THE UK PROPOSED CHANGES IN PARA 3, REF A, ALTHOUGH WE APPRECIATE THE UK CONCERN OVER THE PRECISE WORDING, WE STRONGLY QUESTION THE DESIRABILITY OF INTRODUCING THESE CHANGES AT THIS LATE DATE. FYI. WE NOT ONLY SEE UK AS TRYING TO WATER DOWN LTDP IN THESE KEY RESPECTS, BUT ARE CONCERNED THAT DISCUSSION OF THESE CHANGES, SOME OF WHICH RESULT FROM CURRENT 4-POWER AND BILATERAL ACTIVITIES, MAY EXACERBATE EXISTING SENSITIVITIES OF OTHER ALLIES WHO WERE NOT CONSULTED. MG BOWMAN SAYS THAT UK FEARS TERM "COOPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT" MEANS COMMON DEVELOPMENT AND FUNDING IN SOME FORM. HOWEVER, WE REVERTED TO THIS TERM SPECIFICALLY SO THAT COMMON PROGRAMS OR COMMON DUNDING WERE NOT MANDATORY. END FYI. THEREFORE, WE WOULD BE HAPPY TO ACCEPT A FOOTNOTE EXPLAINING THAT "COOPERATIVE" INCLUDES APPROPRIATE DIVISION OF EFFORT, BUT DOES NOT NECESSARILY MEAN COMMON OR JOINT DEVELOPMENT OF EACH NEW SYSTEM, IF THIS WOULD CALM UK FEARS, BUT WE
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CANNOT ACCEPT WATERING DOWN OF TERM WHEN WE EXPECT TO MAKE MUCH OF IT AT SUMMIT. YOU SHOULD LOBBY WITH PETERS TO FORESTALL UK CHANGES, SAYING THAT YOU CONSULTED WASHINGTON, WHICH WAS VERY CONCERNED AND DID NOT REGARD US/UK/FRG MOU AS IN ANY WAY DESIGNED TO PERMIT WATERING DOWN OF LTDP LANGUAGE BUT RATHER TO FOLLOW THROUGH ON IT.

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